Focus

fo•cus (fō´kəs): a center of interest and activity Mar./Apr. 2000

Morton Grove Public Library

Why Do You Love Libraries?

Think about what it means to have a public library open to everyone! A public library ensures the freedom to share information, learn, and connect with others all over the world! National Library Week is April 9-15 and events are planned in libraries all over the country to inform, to educate, and to entertain. Three special events at the Morton Grove Public Library are: *A Sunday of Standards Concert* on April 9; the *Splendors of Imperial St. Petersburg,* April 13, and *Introduction to Personal Computers,* April 15. Details about these programs are listed below and on page 2 of this newsletter.

Coal Swamps, Coral Reefs, and Glaciers: A Look at Prairie State Geology

What vast and ancient forces created the modern landscape of Morton Grove and its environs? What dramatic evidence of the distant past is found in other parts of our remarkably diverse state? On **Sunday, March 26, at 2:00 pm,** author Raymond Wiggers answers these questions when he presents a slide lecture, "Coal Swamps, Coral Reefs, and Continental Glaciers: A Look at Prairie-State Geology." Copies of his books will be available for sale after the program.

Author Raymond Wiggers discusses Illinois geology March 26

A Sunday Concert of Standards

Sunday, April 9, at 2:00 pm, Vocalist Rebecca Vnuk performs a concert of musical standards accompanied by pianist Francine Markwell. You may recognize Rebecca from the Reference Services Desk - she's one of our Reference Librarians!

Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Call 965-4220 or stop by the Reference Services Desk to make a reservation.

The Splendors of Imperial St. Petersburg

Children's Dept. staff member Nani Boyce, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, presents a travelog, **Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 pm** featuring slides of the palaces, cathedrals, museums, bridges and waterways of the "Window on the West." Once Russia's capital city, St. Petersburg spreads over 40 islands and currently has a population of about 5 million. It is known as Russia's second city.

Morton Grove Park District Jazz Band returns March 19

Back by popular demand, the Morton Grove Park District Jazz Band, under the direction of Ron Surace, will perform at **2:00 pm, Sunday, March 19** in the Baxter Room. Come and enjoy the lively rhythm and sparkling sounds of such numbers as: *Niama, Explosion, We'll Be Together Again, Teddy the Toad, Skylark, Postboperation* and more! Seating is limited; doors open at 1:30 for first-come, first-served availability.

Baxter Room Exhibits

March: Portraits and landscapes by painter Karen Porzak

April: Nature and travel photography by Robert O'Connor.

On Display in March

Check out the latest literacy materials for adult new readers and those learning English as a second language.

MGPL Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 9 - 9
Fri. 9 - 6, Sat. 9 - 5
Sun. 1 - 5
Closed Sun., April 23

Mark your calendar!

Calendar Summary

March

3/4	Sa	1:00	*Magic and Illusion:* Paul Lee
3/7	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
3/8	We	1:00	Low Vision Book Discussion: *Tuesdays With Morrie*
3/9	Th	7:45	Board Meeting
3/13	Mo	11:00 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: *The End of the Affair.* Rated R, 105 minutes
3/14	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
3/19	Su	2:00	Morton Grove Jazz Band Concert
3/21	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
3/25	Sa	1:00	Word 97
3/26	Su	2:00	Raymond Wiggers: *Coal Swamps, Coral Reefs, and Continental Glaciers: A Look at Prairie State Geology*
3/28	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
3/28	Tu	7:30	Thinking Out Loud Book Discussion: *Rose's Garden*

April

4/4	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
4/9	Su	2:00	*A Sunday Concert of Standards:* Rebecca Vnuk
4/10	Mo	11:00 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: (Tentatively) *American Beauty,* rated R, 120 minutes
4/11	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
4/12	We	1:00	Low Vision Book Discussion: *The Shell Seekers*
4/13	Th	7:00	Splendors of Imperial St. Petersburg with Nani Boyce
4/15	Sa	1:00	Introduction to Personal Computers - Jennifer Didier
4/18	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
4/23	Su	Closed for Easter Sunday	
4/25	Tu	11:30	Lunchtime Videos
4/25	Tu	7:30	Thinking Out Loud Book Discussion: *October Sky*

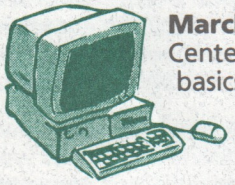
Check our complete calendar on the Web at http://www.webrary.org/inside/calcurr.html

Programs

Computer Classes at the Library

***Registration: Seating is limited to 100 for each class. Priority is given to Morton Grove residents. Please have your Library card ready when you come to the Reference Services Desk or call 965-4220.**

Word 97



March 25 at 1:00 pm. Jennifer Didier of Banner Training Center presents a lecture/demonstration that will include Word basics such as entering text, file and save commands; navigating in a document; editing techniques; paragraph formatting; an introduction to tabs and tables; page appearance; tools and printing. **Registration begins March 6. *See above for registration details.**

Introduction to Personal Computers

April 15 at 1:00 pm. Jennifer Didier of Banner Training Center will discuss different types of PCs on the market, the information flow process, components of a PC, categories of hardware and software, an overview of the Internet, and the wide uses of PCs in a business environment. **Registration begins March 20. *See above for registration details.**

Book Discussion Groups

Thinking Out Loud

The Library's long-standing book discussion group meets Tuesday, **March 28 at 7:30 pm** to discuss ***Rose's Garden*** by **Carrie Brown.** A visit from an angel changes the life of a grieving widower. Conrad Morrisey neglects himself and his late wife's garden, yet somehow the garden flourishes and Conrad feels comforted.

On **Tuesday, April 25, at 7:30 pm,** the group will discuss Homer Hickam's, ***October Sky: A Memoir.*** Homer and some friends began building rockets as a way to escape the dying mining town where they grew up. Winning a gold medal at the 1960 National Science Fair was one of Homer's first steps toward becoming a NASA engineer.

Book Discussion Group for Adults with Low Vision

This new discussion group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at **1:00 pm** in the Board Room. Call Nancy Brothers at 965-4220 for additional information. **March 8** the group will discuss ***Tuesdays with Morrie*** by Mitch Albom. The **April 12th** discussion will be on ***The Shell Seekers*** by Rosamunde Pilcher.

Lunchtime Videos

Pack a brown-bag lunch and head to the Library every **Tuesday at 11:30 am** for Lunchtime Videos. Travel to far-away places, listen to thought-provoking discussions or meet historical figures during this 2-hour video program. Coffee, ice water, and sweet treats are provided.

Kids Programs

Internet for Kids

Do you need resources for school assignments? Ideas for a science fair project? Fun games to play? The Internet is now available in the Children's Room for use by children through grade 6. A permission form, signed by a parent, will be kept on file in the Children's Room. Parents have the option of permitting their children to use the Internet independently or only when with a parent.

Dinosaur Circus with the Jabberwocky Marionettes

Everyone is invited, especially Dinosaur Derby participants, to enjoy the hilarity of the Jabberwocky Marionettes' Dinosaur Circus, **Sat., April 8 at 2:00 pm. Free tickets will be available at the Children's Desk one week prior to the show.** The winning Dinosaur Derby team will be announced after the show. The members of the team with the highest score will be invited to a Dino Pizza Party on April 15th.

Battle of the Books

The Battle of the Books for 7th and 8th graders is underway! Participating schools are: East Prairie, Golf, Old Orchard, O.L.P.H., Park View, and St. Martha. Students read from a list of 50 books, then compete by answering questions based on these books. Meets are held on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 4:00 pm** in the Baxter Room. Visitors are welcome.

Family Read-Together Favorites

Make a date to have your family picture taken with your favorite read-aloud books at the Library! Your picture will be displayed at the Library along with copies of the books you have enjoyed reading. You will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 inch portrait of your family and personalized bookmarks for each family member.

The Tanaka Family reading a "Shaggy Dog" book

Children's Classes

Spring session begins the week of March 20, 2000. Enrollment is limited. Open enrollment begins March 6 for Morton Grove residents and March 13 for non-residents. Phone registrations can be made for openings. Classes end May 12th.

Library Playtime for 2 1/2-Year-Olds & Parents
Thursday 10:30 am
Class limit – 12 children, 12 parents

Pre-School Storytime
Please choose one of the following times for ages 3-Kindergarten:
Wednesday 10:00 am
Thursday 6:45 pm
Class limit – 30

Stories & Stuff
Grades 1-2
Monday 7:00 pm
Class limit – 12

Arts & Crafts
Grades 1-3 Mon. 4:00 pm
Grades 4-6 Fri. 4:00 pm
Class limit – 15

Creative Writing
Please choose one of the following:
Grades 3-6
Wed. or Thurs. 4:00 pm
Class limit - 40

Cool Websites for Kids

Dinosauria, **Arthur's Home Page**, and **FunBrain** are just a few of the fun sites for kids you'll find on the Children's Dept. web site, www.webrary.org/kids/jkidslinks.html.

The Magic and Illusions of Paul Lee

Hard to Believe Productions presents the **Magic and Illusions of Paul Lee on Saturday, March 4 at 2:00 pm.** Paul Lee has over 20 years of experience as a professional magician. Live animals, audience participation, music and magic make his shows entertaining and exciting.

Seating is limited. Beginning Sat., Feb. 5, tickets will be available at the Children's Desk. On the day of the performance, the doors open at 1:45; at 1:55, any unclaimed seats will be given to the general public on a first-come, first-served basis. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Honorary Students of Hogwarts Wizard School Awarded Certificates

January 22, children and adult readers of the Harry Potter books competed in "Quidditch Trivia," Harry Potter charades and crossword puzzles, and enjoyed delicious *Knickerbocker Glories, licorice wands, chocolate frogs, pumpkin juice* and *Gillywater.* All enjoyed a lively discussion of the books and guessing the flavors of different kinds of *Bertie Botts Beans.*

Congratulations to Jonathon Paul, who came closest to guessing the number of Bertie Bott's Every Flavor Beans. There were 934 beans! Jonathon won a set of three Harry Potter books.

Look for the Literacy Sticker

on hundreds of materials specifically geared for people who are learning English as a second language and adult new readers.

Films

The End of the Affair

Rated R, 105 minutes. Mon, March 13 at 11:00 am, 2:30 pm, & 7:00 pm. The film is based on novelist Graham Greene's own wartime love affair. Henry Miles' wife, Sarah, is having an affair. Henry asks Maurice to help him identify her new lover, without knowing that Maurice also had an affair with her.

American Beauty

Rated R, 120 minutes. Tentatively scheduled for Mon, April 10 at 11:00 am, 2:30 pm, & 7:00 pm. *American Beauty* has been nominated for 8 Oscar Awards to be presented March 26. Depending on which films win in the various categories, *American Beauty* may be pulled by the film distributor. Please call the Library after April 3 to confirm that the film will be shown as scheduled.

Reference Round-up

Government Information

When dealing with the vast array of federal government branches, departments, and agencies, it can be difficult to get the information you want or to determine whom to contact. The Library's Reference Department maintains a collection of excellent current reference sources to tackle both aspects of government information questions.

The U.S. Government Manual, 1999-2000, the official handbook of the U.S. government, lists all the agencies of the legislative, judicial and executive branches, along with independent government establishments and government corporations. The book gives a brief history of each agency, a description of its purpose and role in the government, the main officials, contact information, programs and activities.

Two books on using the Internet to find government information are new this year: **How to Access the Federal Government on the Internet** and **Government Information on the Internet.** Both cover close to 1,000 government information Web sites and provide a description, Internet address, and sponsor for each site. **The Government Assistance Almanac, 1999-2000**, identifies government aid programs and tells how to get assistance in using them. Over 1,000 federal programs include: grants, loans, personal payments, benefits, subsidies, fellowships, scholarships, traineeships, complaint investigations, and sales/donations of federal property.

Focus is published five times a year by the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053-2989. It is sent free of charge to all Morton Grove residents. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, but don't live in Morton Grove, leave your name and address at the Reference Services Desk.

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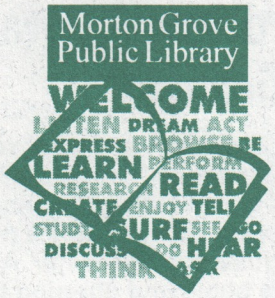
Morton Grove Public Library



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